

Potsdam United Methodist Church



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday ~ October 26, 2025

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Celebrating the Gift of Christ's Resurrection in Potsdam United Methodist Church

Large print bulletins and listening assistive devices are available, *Please stand, whether in body or in spirit.

At Potsdam UMC, all persons are welcome and celebrated regardless of gender, culture, nationality, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic circumstance, age, physical and mental ability, marital status or family structure.

WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS / SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

Oboro-Zukiyo (A Night With A Hazy Moon)

by Teiichi Okano arr. By K. Kobayashi

As you listen to the prelude, take time for quiet contemplation and prayer

INTROIT

The Lily of the Valley [TFWS #2062]

*CALL TO WORSHIP - ASSURANCE OF GRACE

L: God of Grace, you show us a vision of how life,
the church, the world could be.

P: **But we are unsure we can take on the discomfort of change,
anxiety of being re-formed, to make the vision a reality.**

L: God of Love, you strive to write the law of love and life on our hearts.

P: **But like Pharaoh we harden our hearts,
secure in our own understandings.**

L: God of Hope, you promise that beyond the time of disorder
and raggedness there will be a new spring of promise
and fruitfulness, a new heaven and a new earth.

P: **But the raggedness unsettles our need for order,
so, we try to keep things neat and tidy,
even if it means staying in a place that is not
as comfortable as it once was.**

L: Alpha and Omega, God of the Past, Present and Future,
God who calls us to live out of what was,
in what is and into what will be,

P: **Help us to be faithful in order and disorder,
in old ways and in new ways,
grant us the grace and wisdom to trust
that in being reformed we can be made
healthier members of healthier communities.**

L: God is Gracious, Loving and Hope-filled.
God walks with us in times of change and times of stability.
God does not hold our mis-steps, mis-trust and wanderings against us
but continues to write love on our hearts
as God continues to make all things new.

All: Thanks be to God! AMEN!

Rev. Gord Waldie (c) 2013 Used with permission

***A HYMN FOR REFORMATION SUNDAY A Mighty Fortress Is Our God UMH #110**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

GOD'S WORD – THE PSALMS

Psalm 65

UMH #789

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

ALL: Living God, help us to hear your holy Word with open hearts
so that we may truly understand; and, understanding, that we may believe;
and, believing, that we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. **AMEN**

THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH SONG...

CHOIR ANTHEM *Come Follow Me; written by Elly & Steve Kupferschmid*

... AND THERE IS A TIME TO PRAISE GOD WITH WORD!

GOD'S WORD - THE EPISTLE

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

GOD'S WORD – THE GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

THE MESSAGE

Re-FORM-ation

Rev. Heidi Chamberlain

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* **UMH #402**

THE PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (UMH #270)

Responding to God's invitation, in joy, we offer our gifts

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The Lord is My Shepherd
music by Thomas Koschat arr. by Dale McAllister, 2000

***THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* **UMH #94**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Humble and merciful God, you do not require perfection, only a heart that is open.

Receive these gifts, not as a sign of our righteousness, but as a humble offering
from those who know they need your grace.

Teach us again that generosity begins not in pride, but in gratitude
— not in proving our worth, but in trusting yours.

May what we give today grow into mercy, justice, and joy in the lives of others
and in our own. In Jesus' name, we pray. **AMEN** (Luke 18:9-14)

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN** *Now Praise the Hidden God of Love* **TFWS #2027**

***BENEDICTION**

L: What greater joy can we know that to go home justified
because of our humility before God who redeems?

Let us leave this place to live as we came in – openly and desiring to praise God
and witness to a saving love. Go in humble grace. In Christ's name. **AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Eine Kleine by Kenshi Yonezu arr. By MutantAura

Go forward, to live the church, in ministry to all the world!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Pumpkins...

A woman was asked by a coworker, 'What is it like to be a Christian?'

The coworker replied, 'It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. God then takes off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff, removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed, and carves you a new smiling face putting God's own light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.'

Worship & Prayer resources for this week: Used by permission –
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MEETINGS, EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

- **The Good Cup:** Enjoy conversation and a “cuppa” with Pastor Heidi & Pastor Carl, **Wednesdays at noon** at Jernabi Coffee House.
- **Helping Hands Thanksgiving Baskets:** If you choose to support this mission monetarily, please make your contribution by Sunday, October 26th. Food items need to be brought in by November 2.
- **Annual Charge Conference: Saturday, Nov. 1st at 1:pm**, here at our church. We will be hosting seven other churches, and will need to supply refreshments. There is a sign-up sheet on the piano, or you can Contact Kathy Demo at 315-212-9283 or jkdemo80@gmail.com for more information.
- **Hearts and Hands on a Mission Craft Group:** meets at the Parsonage the first Thursday of each month, 2-4pm. The next meeting is **November 6th**. There is a sign-up sheet on the piano in Fellowship Hall, or contact Pastor Heidi at pastorheidi@potsgdamumc.org.
- **A Journey Through Grief:** 2nd Thursday of each month, 4-6pm, Fellowship Hall. Next meeting **November 13th**.
- **Anthony Steen Senior Recital:** Nov. 15 at 12pm, Wakefield Hall, Crane School of Music.

Worship Participants			
Microphone: Norm Gardner		Acolytes: Jordyn Fish, Ben Fish	
Counters		Readers	
Oct. 26:	Tim Virgil, Robin Howard	Oct. 26:	Nancy Matthews
Nov. 2:	Tom Ortmeyer, Christa Carroll	Nov. 2:	Sharon Hutchinson
Nov. 9:	Carrie Livernois, Tom Ortmeyer	Nov. 9:	Collen Gondo
Nov. 16:	Robin Howard, Debby Nikkari	Nov. 16:	Tom Ortmeyer
Nov. 23:	Christa Carroll, Carrie Livernois	Nov. 23:	Christa Carroll
Nov. 30:	Debby Nikkari, Robin Howard	Nov. 30:	Kathy Demo
Greeters/Ushers		Fellowship Time Hosts	
Oct. 26:	Robin Howard, Judy Haer	Nov. 2:	Carol Willmert
Nov. 2:	Nancy Matthews	Nov 23:	Pizza Party (Greening the Church)
Nov. 9:	Kathy Demo	Dec. 7:	Ashley Fish and Family
Nov. 16:	Carrie Livernois	Jan. 4:	Robin Howard & Judy Haer
Nov. 23:	Norm Gardner	Jan. 11:	Pizza Party (Un-Greening the Church)
Nov. 30:	Robin Howard, Judy Haer		

Pastor: Heidi Chamberlain

Musician: Dr. Risa Okina ♦ Choir Director: Anthony Steen

Potsdam United Methodist Church ♦ 26 Main Street, Potsdam NY 13676

Pastor's Office Hours as scheduled with Pastor Heidi Chamberlain

To schedule a pastoral conversation please call: 315-528-4709 (cell) **OR** the Church office: 315-265-7474

Pastor Heidi: pastorheidi@potsgdamumc.org ♦ Church email: info@potsgdamumc.org

Website: www.potsgdamumc.org ♦ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PotsdamUMCNY>

If you prefer to make your offering electronically you can contribute via [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com) - <https://tinyurl.com/2s3mtnr5>